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<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>		<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/798,610		KIM, SUN-YOUNG	
	<b>Examiner</b>		<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Tu-Tu Ho		2818	

-- **The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**  
 All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed 04/29/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-22 and 24.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 10 March 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                               |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material                     | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
|  | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |



David Nelms  
 Supervisory Patent Examiner  
 Technology Center 2800

### DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's Amendment filed 04/29/2005 has been reviewed and placed of record in the file.

#### *Allowable Subject Matter*

2. Claims 1-22 and 24 are allowable over the prior art of record.

The examiner's statement of reasons for allowance for claims 1-19 is indicated in the previous Office Action and recited here in its entirety:

"The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of record fails to teach or render obvious a method with **all** exclusive limitations as recited in claims 1 and 12, characterized in removing the gate etching stopper layer pattern to expose the first lower gate conductive layer pattern, forming first and second trench mask patterns on respective portions of the first and second lower gate conductive layer patterns, etching the first and second lower gate conductive layer patterns and the first and second gate insulating layer patterns using the first and second trench mask patterns as etching masks to form first and second lower gate electrode patterns below the first and second trench mask patterns, respectively, the semiconductor substrate in the border region being etched during the etching process of the first and second lower gate conductive layer patterns to generate a groove region in the border region, and etching the semiconductor substrate using the first and second trench mask patterns as etching masks to form trench regions, the trench region in the border region being formed to be deeper than the trench regions in the first and second regions."

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For claims 20-22 and 24, the allowable subject matter is as recited in amended claim 20, particularly, the first trench region deeper than the second trench region, the semiconductor in the border trench region, which is between the first trench region and the second trench region, having a steep profile consisting of at least a first and a second horizontal surface, the first horizontal surface deeper than the second trench region, and the second horizontal surface deeper than the first trench region.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tu-Tu Ho whose telephone number is (571) 272-1778. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, DAVID NELMS can be reached on (571) 272-1787. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

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applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Tu-Tu Ho  
May 17, 2005



David Nelms  
Supervisory Patent Examiner  
Technology Center 2800